

Message Text

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62

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 H-02 /033 W

----- 094491

R 241214Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8601

INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 14208

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PINS, IN

SUBJ: GEORGE FERNANDES CHARGE-SHEETED IN BARODA DYNAMITE CASE

REF: NEW DELHI 11563 (NOTAL)

1. SAMACHAR REPORTED SEPTEMBER 24 THAT SOCIALIST LEADER GEORGE FERNANDES AND TWENTY-FOUR OTHERS (NOT NAMED) ACCUSED IN THE BARODA DYNAMITE CASE WERE CHARGE-SHEETED BY THE CBI IN THE DELHI METROPOLITAN COURT. ALL HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH HATCHING A "DEEP-ROOTED CRIMINAL CONSPIRACY HAVING WIDESPREAD RAMIFICATIONS TO OVERAWE, BY MEANS OF CRIMINAL FORCE AND/OR THE SHOW OF CRIMINAL FORCE, THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT."

2. THE LENGTHY CBI CHARGE SHEET SPELLED OUT IN DETAIL THE GOVERNMENT'S CASE AGAINST FERNANDES AND CHRONICLED HIS UNDERGROUND ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING THE PROCLAMATION OF THE EMERGENCY, PARTICULARLY HIS ROLE IN THE THEFT OF DYNAMITE FROM STONE QUARRIES OUTSIDE OF BARODA. THE CHARGE SHEET STATED THAT THIS DYNAMITE WAS USED IN A SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS IN BIHAR, MAHARASHTRA AND KARNATAKA. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME TO OUR KNOWLEDGE THAT THE GOI HAS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THESE EXPLOSIONS OCCURRED.

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3. FERNANDES AND THE OTHERS ARE TO APPEAR IN COURT

ON OCTOBER 4 FOR THE HEARING.
SAXBE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DETENTION, OPPOSITION PARTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: vogelfj
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NEWDE14208
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760362-0511
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760923/aaaaatim.tel
Line Count: 63
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 NEW DELHI 11563
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUN 2004 by buchant0>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GEORGE FERNANDES CHARGE-SHEETED IN BARODA DYNAMITE CASE
TAGS: PINT, PINS, IN, (FERNANDES, GEORGE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006